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Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-15 /077 W
---------- 009365 /46
R 150755Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3937
INFO CINCPAC
13TH AFB CLARK
CINCPACREPPHIL
SECDEF

UNCLAS MANILA 19411

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR, PFOR, RP, US
SUBJ: DAILY EXPRESS SUGGESTS BASE NEGOTIATIONS BALL IN US COURT

REF: MANILA 19306

1. DEC 15 DAILY EXPRESS CARRIED LENGTHY EDITORIAL HEAD-
LINE "US MUST NOW MAKE NEXT MOVE ON BASES ISSUE."
EDITORIAL CLAIMS THERE HAS BEEN "NO PLAUSIBLE EXPLNATION"
FOR THE "STRANGE BEHAVIOR" OF THE US STATE DEPARTMENT
REGARDING THE BASES SINCE US ELECTIONS "REDUCED THE KISSINGER
PANEL TO A LAME DUCK NEGOTIATING TEAM." EXPRESS EDITORIAL
REVIEWS EVENTS REPORTED IN NEW YORK TIMES STORY AND
SPECULATES ON DEPARTMENT'S MOTIVIATION IN "PREMATURELY
LEAKING" INFORMATION ON THE BASES TALKS. EDITORIAL FUNDS
EXPLANATION THAT INTENTION WAS TO MAKE PHILIPPINE APPEAR
MERCENARY AND UNCERTAIN OF WHAT IT WANTS PLAUSIBLE BUT
NOT CONVINCING.

2. EXPRESS SPECULATES THAT WHEN SECRETARY RENEWED
DISCUSSIONS WITH ROMULO ON BASES QUESTION, HIS PRINCIPAL
INTENTION WAS "TO TORPEDO THE NEGOTIATIONS COMPLETELY SO
THAT EVERYTHING WILL BE SET BACK TO ZERO AND THE
PHILIPPINES WILL HAVE TO START AGAIN FROM SCRATCH WITH
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THE NEW CARTER ADMINISTRATION. NATURALLY THIS WOULD MEAN

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MORE PROTRACTED NEGOTIATIONS AND A LONGER LEASE ON LIFE FOR THE STATUS QUO ON THE BASES." EXPRESS EDITORIAL NOTES, HOWEVER, " THAT PRESIDENT MARCOS HAS SEEN THROUGH ALL THESE MACHINATIONS OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT" AND HAS INSISTED NOT ONLY ON JUST RENTALS, BUT ALSO ON THE US' FULFILLMENT OF ITS COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE MILITARY AID IN EXCHANGE FOR USE OF THE BASES. EDITORIAL CONCLUDES THAT GOP HAS MADE IT CLEAR IT WANTS US TO START FULFILLING THIS COMMITMENT NOW AND NEXT MOVE IS UP TO UNITED STATES.

3. TEXT OF EDITORIAL POUCHED EA/PHL.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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